or upon what foundation of justice, can more that nanded? This has been proposed; or what is the nanded? This has been proposed; or what is the was most clearly implied in the first article, or or the was most clearly implied in the first article, or or the was most collision. nade by lieut. col. Harrison, and illiberally to nade by Heur. con. with any degree of reason were as inconsistent with any degree of reason were non lense. Painful as it is, I am compelled to conte non fenie. Faining as a fact not to be questioned, that the share of t risoners whilst in your possession, the privates also risoners whilst in your ponement, the privates also vas such as could not be justified. This was product y the concurrent testimony of all who came out to the concurrent testimony and well and melantic testion—and melantic y the concurrent tentimony of an who came out to ppearance fancified the affertion—and melanching erience, in the speedy death of a large part of the amped it with intallible certainty.

In respect to the second article insisted on the

In respect to the second Lee from other capital formulating major general Lee from other capital formulation army density ficers belonging to the American army, demaid y particular attention. I was authorised to concluom your letter of the 23d of January las, the om your letter of the 23d of January las, the omega was a fingular point of view, and of om your return in a fingular point of view, and bear exclude him from the common right of each pullated for all officers in general terms. This pulated for an one-tinjurious and unwarrantible to action, the more injurious and unwarrantible to action, the more him at the ver excepted him, though you knew him token income and long before the contract of the contrac reement was entered into, made it my duty to the reement was entered in an explicit manner, and to enderwish the matter in fo unequivocal a footing at to interenlargement, whenever an officer of equint onging to your army, should be in our power. Its onging to your army, the article, and nothing more are attempted by the article, and nothing more are attempted by the drawn from it. It the roposition was made since his captivity, to me ropolition was made of inferior rank in exinge for him, but it was not claimed as a ming of What name then does that proceeding min, which it is suggested that the immediate relets of Lee had been demanded, without having met. r of equal rank to give for him? The luggefice not be supported by the most tortured expersion will it have credit where candor is deemed a vince words preferve their form and meaning.

ers in our hands—the dispersed situation of the n at a more early period of the war, throughthe rent states, arising from the circumstances of the ivity, and a regard to their better accommodition e their detention for a confiderable time unifold When the agreement subsisting between mich e, the speediest directions were given to have then the chief, that an exchange might be effected. This done in part, and at a juncture when motivated y opposed the measure, but were made to field gid maxims of good faith. We were pursuing the ange, and continued our exertions to accomp ill the miserable appearance, indicating an in ching catastrophe, of those sent out by you, mis

s to the charge of delay in not returning the pi-

aproper. For seeing that a difficulty might are, that it might be expected I should account for the e of them, which I by no means thought equiit became necessary that the matter should be id. , and the due proportion fettled, for which I to be responsible, before any thing farther cold ne on my part. Upon this ground stands along tion of those who have been since captured. ded to these considerations—the discrimination

in the instance of gen. Lee, is to be regarded a y irreconcileable to the tenor of our agreement n infurmountable obstacle to a compliance with

u, Sir, have I explained the motives of my conand, I truft, vindicated myself, in the eye of inity, from the improper and groundless charge you, and the gentlemen acting by your authory, seen pleased to allege against me. If in dong have departed in the smallest degree from that y, which I always wished should form a partof aracter, you will remember I have been forced ecrimination, and that it has become an alt of ry justice. Il now declare it to be my ardent with, thats

exchange may take place on generous and libe-nciples, as far as it can be effected, and that the ent subsisting between us for that purpos should olably observed; and I call upon you, by erery ion of good faith, to remove all impedimenton art to the accomplishment of it. If howeveryou . I confole myself with a hope, that those mte men, whose lot it is to be your prisoners, will eir fuffe ings with becoming fortitude and may-I am, Sir, with due respect, your mid thumble fervant,

- G. WASHINGTON. acellency gen. Sir William Howe. (Cop)

. Published by order of Congress, CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

COUNCIL, Philadelphia, April 9, 1777.

the PROPLE of PRHHSYLVANIA

he intelligence which the council have thirdly from gen. Putnam, the enemy are in motos. South-Amboy, and it is probable they will, ore, attempt to pass through New-Jerier, and ur to gain possession of the city of Philadelphia council think it a duty which they own the to give them the earliest intelligence of the ints of the enemy, that every possible effort may effectually to oppose them, and prevent the react inconveniencies and disagreeable consents which must arise from the loss of the city-ences which will effect not only the people of ences which will effect not only the people of phia and the fate of Pennsylvania, but all the phia and the state of Pennsylvania, but allo the intinent of America. This city has once been the vigorous, manly efforts of a sew birry, who generously stepped forward in the detection of the country—and it has been repeatedly and ought to be acknowledged as a idence of the favour of divine providence, that of the militia in every hattle, during this side to been remarkably spared—considing therefore ontinuance of his blessing who is indeed the armies, let every man among us bold himself march into the field whenever he shall be called march into the field whenever he shall be called to do. If the enemy really intend to make on this flate, no time should be lede free hould be employed in putting outliffe in adiness to repel them. acenveniencies which naturally and winne

bly will arise from the militia taking the field, induceth the council to wait as long as may be consistent with the fafety of the state, before they call them to arms. In justice therefore to yourselves and posterity, we intreat you To BE BEAD'S—for whenever the time shall come wherein you must either tamely submit yourfelves to the immediate infults of haughty tyrants, whose lust and avarice will make a prey of every thing whole full and availed with make a prey of every thing which human beings, while they retain their fenses, esteem worth possessing—or bravely determine to oppose your enemies in the field—the notice will be short—the call must and will be studen—and it is too probable may happen in a few days.

The militia of this state, it is feared, cannot be arranged under the law in time for the prefent emergency---yet we have not the least doubt but that the tame spirit of liberty which blazed forth in the winter campaign, will animate every vigtuous breaft to act once more on the fame generous principles which, in the depth of winter, led you forward to a harvest of glory on the hills of Princetown. The canfe is the same. And the prize we contend for, far from loting its lustre, is become more valuable to us by the price which we have already paid for it.

Those who shall go into the field on the present ocduty, and will not be called upon again until the whole militia of the flate shall have served in turn, agreeable to the spirit of the militia law.

Congress propose to form a camp near the city of Philadelphia, to which the militia of Pennsylvania will, when called upon, repair. Arms, tents, and the neceffary camp equipage, are provided, and the utmost attention will be given to the measures necessary to make a spring campaign as agreeable to you as possible.

It is on your own virtue and firmness, next to the eare and protection of Heaven, that you must depend for your liberty and safety; and a spirited conduct, in this time of danger, will fix your character both at home and abroad:

THOMAS WHARTON, jun. president.

APRIL 16.

Pennfylvania war-effice, April 13, 1777.
THIS board think it their duty to publific a letter reerived from Mr. Henry Fisher, at Lewistown, by the honourable the navy board, of this fate, as it is of importance at this critical period, that all the inhabitants be made acquainted as early as possible of the approaches of the enemy, that they may be guarded against a furprize, and every necessary precaution taken for the defence and fecurity of this ftate.

By erder of the board of war, OWEN BIDDLE, chairman.

" Gentlemen, Lewistown, April 12. " Yesterday morning the ship Morris, capt. Anderfen, was chased into the mouth of our bay by a frigate; the Roebuck, laying in the road, made fail after her. Capt. Anderson run his ship on shore about half a mile from the light house, the two ships continually firing at him, and he returned the fire for near three hours in the most brave and gallant manner. The ships sent three boats which were beat off by the Morris. Capt. Anderson landed his packet for the congress, which I have fent up by two French gentlemen, when finding he could defend her no longer, he laid a train, and blew the ship up, and I am forry to tell you that so brave a man has fell in the attempt. The mate and fourteen of the crew are fafe on flore. The fccare was horrible to behold. The cargo is in part blown on thore, viz. guns, cloaths, gunlocks, &c. &c. &c. We have a number of men employed in faving the cargo. The Roebuck is now in the road, and two frigates at anchor upon the lower part of the Brown. There has been a second flag from the Roebuck. The officer fays, they expect their whole squadron in shortly; and should they arrive, I will give you the earliest advice in my power. I am, gentlemen, your humble fervant, HENRY FISHER:

P. S. After writing the within, the two ships that lay at the Brown are making fail up the bay, the wind at N. N. E. therefore sent the alarm.

H. F.

And the following intelligence is received this day, afferted by Henry Fisher, and express sent to Bombay Rook, to Benjamin Brooks, and from him to James Cameron, at Port-Penn, certifying that there are nine of the enemies thips of war in Delaware, viz. three in Whore-Kiln road, three at the Middle, three at the

BENJAMIN BROOKS, Signed, JAMES CAMERON.

Twelve o'clock, Monday the 14th. N. B. The alarm guns being just fired, give us notice that a feet of transports appear off the capes.

Published by order of the board, OWEN BIDDLE, chairman.

ANNAPOLIS, APRIL 24.

On Sunday last the House of Delegates of this state adjourned to the second day of June next, and the senate to the isth day of August next, after having passed twenty-four laws, a list of which follow. 3. Ah act for laying the levy in Anne Arundel

s. An act to prevent desertion. 3. An act to promote the recruiting fervice.
4. An act to expedite the march of troops in and

through this fate. 5. Aff act to direct the forms of the commissions to the judges and juffices, and civil officers of this state, and the oath of office to be taken by the governor, the chancellor, the judges, justices, and all civil officers of

6. An act to direct in what manner all fines, forseitures and penalties, shall be recovered, and in what manner fines, forfeitures, penalties and amerciaments, shall be applied;

7. An act relating to the public buildings in Harford county.

. An act to effablish orphans courts in the several counties of this fate.

9. An act to make the bills of credit iffued by conprefs, and the hills of credit emitted by acts of allembly and resolves of the late conventions, a legal tender in

to An aft for the crefting barracks.

county court.

as. An aft concerning marriages.
An act for the more speedy and effectual recovery of common law fines and forfeited recognizances. 14. An act for quartering foldiers.

15. An act to open the courts of juffice and for other purpoles.

10 16:. An act to enable the governor to iffue commif-

An act to continue the acts of affembly therein mentioned.

18. An act concerning duties. An act for holding an election for theriffs in Someriet county, and to enable the governor and countil to determine the validity of elections for theriffs.

nors, and to prevent the growth of toryim. ss. An act to affels and impofe an equal tax on all property within this state. a. An act relating to the affeliment of property in

this state. 23. An act for the payment of the journal of accounts. 24. An act for enlarging the powers of the governor

By the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of MARYLAND.

April 19, 1777. RESOLVED, That the juffices of the feveral county courts of this state, or any three or more of them, may meet at the place of holding their respective county courts on the third Tuesday in May next, and may then and there elect and qualify the clerk of their court, and nominate constables and overseers of, the road for their counties; but this resolve is not to extend to prevent any court, whose proceedings have been aided by acts of this fession, from appointing their clerk or con-fiable at their meeting, in virtue of such act.

Refelved, That the judges of the general court be, and they or any one or more of them are hereby impowered to meet, on the first Tuesday in June next, at the city of Annapolis, and on the third Tuesday in June next, at Talbot court-house, to appoint and qualify their clerks.

By order, G. DUVALL, Cl. H. D.

BY laws passed this fession, a tax of ten shillings is to. be affested and paid for every hundred pounds worth of property, real or personal, within this state (real or perfonal estate belonging to this state, or to any church, county, or parish, or to any public or county school, provisions necessary for the use and consumption of the family for the year, and wearing apparel only excepted) as the fame would, in the judgment of the alleffor, fell for in ready money. Money lent on, or carrying intereft, is to be confidered as property, and to he allefford in the hands of the debtor, at the rate of ten fallings for every hundred pounds principal. All offices or employments of profit are to be affeffed at the rate of five hillings for every hundred pounds of the clear annual amount and profit of such office or employment. Annuities, stipends, or yearly payments, are to be affested five faillings for every hundred pounds or the value thereof. Lawyers, physicians, hired clerks acting without commission; and factors and agents using commerce, are to be affested five shillings for every hundred pounds of the clear yearly profit of their practice, wages, or

Five persons are appointed commissioners of the tax in each county, with a power to any three or more of them to act, who are to meet at the place where their county court is usually held, on the twentieth of May next, appoint their clerk, and by warrant under their hands and feals, appoint one able and discreet in-habitant in each hundred of their county, having in the county real or personal property above the value of five hundred pounds current money, to be affessor of the

The commissioners are to appoint a day and place, not exceeding ten days from the noth of May; of which five days notice is to be given the affellor, for the affelfors to appear before them, and are to appoint a day and place, not less than fix nor more than eight weeks, for affessors to appear and bring in their affessments in

late receivers of the quit-rents are to make out and deliver to the commissioners, by the asth of May, a fair lift of the lands within his county. County clerks are to make out and deliver to the com-

missioners a list of taxables, by the 20th of May.

The commissioners, before the 20th of August, are to deliver a copy of the assessment and rate to the collectors, and are to meet in their August court weeks to hear appeals. After the soth of September, the collector may compel payment by diffress and sale. Collector to pay the treasurer of his shore on or before the astheday of December; on failure, his bond to be sued by

the first of February.
Collectors are to settle their accounts with the commissioners in their November court weeks. Commissioners and their clerk allowed ten shillings per day. Each affessor allowed not less than five, nor more than twenty pounds, in the judgment of the commissioners.

Collector allowed two one-half per cent. Any person advancing not less than fifty pounds for his taxes, allowed fix per cent on the overplus. The money raifed to be applied towards the payment of the quota of the interest due from this state on the monies berrowed by congress to defray the expences of the war, and the refidue towards finking part of the bills of credit emitted

Extralls from the law to provent the growth of Toryifm.

Be it enalled, That every fenator, delegate to congress or assembly, member of the council, electors of the fenate, and every attorney at law, and all civil officers, and all persons holding any office of trust or profit in this state, shall take, repeat, and subscribe, the following oath of fidelity and support to this state, before he acts as fuch, or enters on the execution of his office, to wit, ... I, A. B. do swear, that I do not hold myself bound to yield any allegiance or obedience to the king of Great-Britain, his heirs or successors, and that I will be true and faithful to the flate of Maryland, and will, to the utmost of my power, support, maintain, and defend, the freedom and independence thereof, and the government as now established, against all open enemies, and

\$4. An act to revive the proceedings of Frederick Regret and trafterois confilracies, and will ule my use most endeavours to disclose and make known to the governor, or fome one of the judges or justices, all treaions or traiterous conspiracies, artempts, or combina-

tions or traiterous computaties, attempts, or combinations, against this state or the government thereof, which may come to my knowledge. So help me God."

And be it enalted, That if any person now holding any office of trust or profit, shall not, within three months after the end of this present session, take, repeat, and subscribes the same cath, or affirmation if a peat, and subscribe; the same oath, or affirmation if a quaker, menonist, or dunker, he shall be, ipso falle, dis-qualified to hold such office, and the office of such perion shall be filled agreeable to its institution.

WHEREAS several persons, late inhabitants of this fate, have, since the rath day of August, 1775, deserted the defence of this country in the prefent just and ne-

Be it enacted, That no person whatsoever, who has deferted as aforefaid, or any person who since the said time hath left this flate without leave, shall at any time hereafter (unless he returns to this state within twelve months and during the prefent war, and takes and tubferibes the oath of fidelity aforefaid, within ten days after his return) be capable of holding any office of trust or profit within this state; nor shall any person now a resident of this state, who hath resused or neglected to subscribe the association, and shall not take the faid oath of fidelity, on or before the first day of August next, be capable of holding any office as aforefaid : Paovided always, that nothing herein contained shall extend to such persons who from religious principles have not subscribed, or shall not subscribe the affociation.

By order, G. DUVALL, Cl. H.D.

By his Excellency THOMAS JOHNSON, Eig. GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND. A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the general affembly have requested me. to iffue my proclamation, commanding all militia officers to train and discipline their several corps according to the resolutions of the several late conventions of this state. Wherefore I have issued this my proclamation, hereby requiring and commanding all militia officers to train and discipline their several corps according to the resolutions of the several late conventions.

Given at Annapolis this 21st day of April, 1777. THO. JOHNSON.

By his Excellency's command. R. RIDGELY, Sec. GOD fave the STATE.

In COUNCIL, April 24, 1777.

THE general assembly having impowered the governor, with the advice of the council, to contract with any person or persons to furnish rations or provisions, either at a certain price for the ration, or by allowing an adequate reward for the trouble such contractor may be at in procuring and furnishing such previsions for the continental troops, while in this state, and the artillery companies and other troops in the pay and fervice of this state, for the particular defence thereof; every person who is desirous of contracting to furnish the troops in either manner, is requested to send in his proposals in writing, sealed up and directed to the clerk of the council, on or before the third day of June next, all which are intended to be opened and compared the morning following, and the preference given to the best

R. RIDGELY, Clk. Co.

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Alexandria, April 17, 1777. THE death of Mr. John Dalton deficiving the partneiship of Carlyle and Dalton, there will be fold at public sale, in Alexandria, on Monday the 18th of May, being Fairfax court day, eight NEGRO men; fix of them are good smiths, and have served regular times to the trade; they do all kinds of thip and planters work, shoe horses, &c. one understands a good deal of gun work and making nails; one of the others is a waterman and pilot in the river and bay, the other a plantation inegro. At the same time will be sold four complete sets of smiths tools, steel, old and new iron, two large tobacco flats, one of 45 hogsheads, the mer or as no ineads, with their rigging, fails, &cc. The terms of fale to be agreed upon on the day of

EIGHT DOLLARS REWARD.

Annapolis, April 18, 1777.

ESERTED from the ship DEFENCE, some time ago, Benjamin Hoans, and was feen in this city the 16th intrant : He is a thick, well-made fellow, about four feet five inches high, of a swarthy com-plexion, black hair that curls behind; had on a black jacket and a hunting-hirt under it, a pair of trousers, old flockings and shoes. Whoever takes up faid Hobbs, and delivers him to the thip, shall be intitled to the above reward; and should the ship not be in the fiate, to be put on board some of the gallies. GEO. COOK.

Port-Tobacco, April 16, 1777.

DESERTED from capt. Joseph Marbury's company, of col. Mordecai Gift's regiment, a certain ADAM RAINS, a well made fellow, about twenty years of age, five feet feven or eight inches high; had on, when he deferred, a light colouted coat and ofna-brigs troufers which are much tarred, being a ship carpenter by trade. Whoever takes up the said man and delivers him to the subscriber, or secures him, so that I may get him again, shall receive a reward of eight dollars. JOSEPH MARRURY.

WENT adrift the 13th inft. from the floop MOLLY, while aground on St. Thomas's point, a little below Annapolis, a black boat of about point; a little below Annapolis, a black boat of about afty buthels burthen, fealed tight for carrying whear, and had a good deal of loofe whear in her bottom a there were about three fathom of three inch rope to her when the went adrift, with three oars. Wheever takes up the faid boat, gand delivers her to Mr. John Shaw in Annapolis, or to the subscriber, living on Wiccomics river, in Charles county, shall receive a reward of 30s.

**EDW. SMOOT.